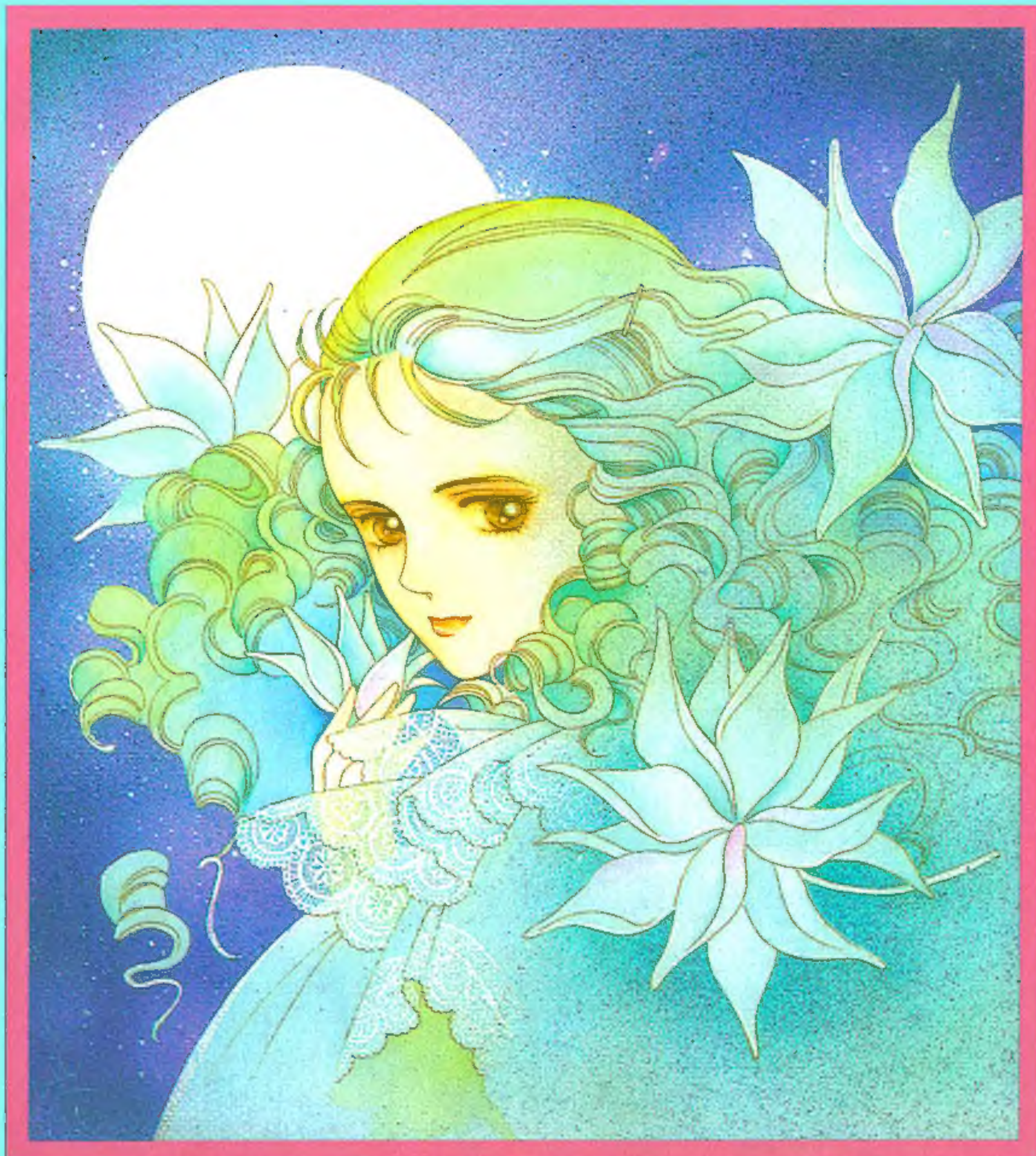


花とゆめ COMICS

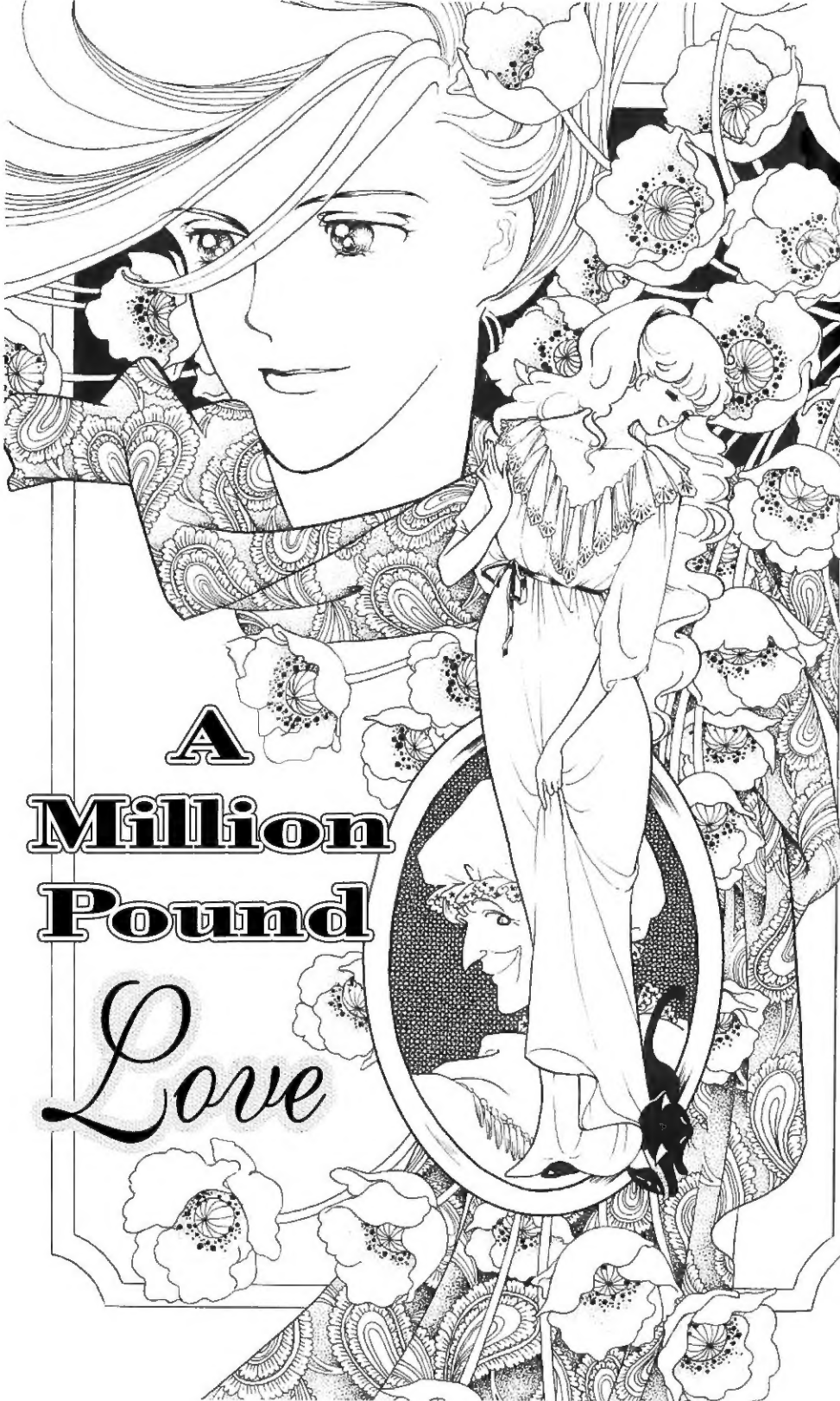
# One More Myth

- A Million-Pound Love -

REIKO SHIMIZU







**A**  
**Million**  
**Pound**  
*Love*



NO  
WAY,  
KAI,  
I'D  
SWEAR  
THAT WAS  
YOU AND  
EDITH!

YOU  
TELL ME  
YOU'VE GOT  
AN ERRAND  
OR  
SOMETHING,  
THEN GO  
ON A DATE  
WITH SOME  
OTHER GIRL-

AH-HAH/  
KNEW IT WAS  
SOMEBODY  
ELSE.  
I WAS WITH  
PATTY THAT  
DAY.

I DIDN'T!  
I DON'T,  
I TELL YOU!  
YOU MUST'VE  
SEEN  
SOMEBODY  
ELSE.



WHA-!?

AHM~~  
NO, SEE...

WHAT DID YOU JUST  
SAY!? YOU'RE  
SEEING PATTY, TOO~~!?

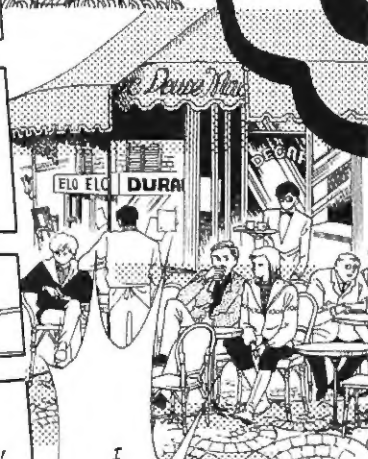


C'MON,  
DON'T BE  
MAD...

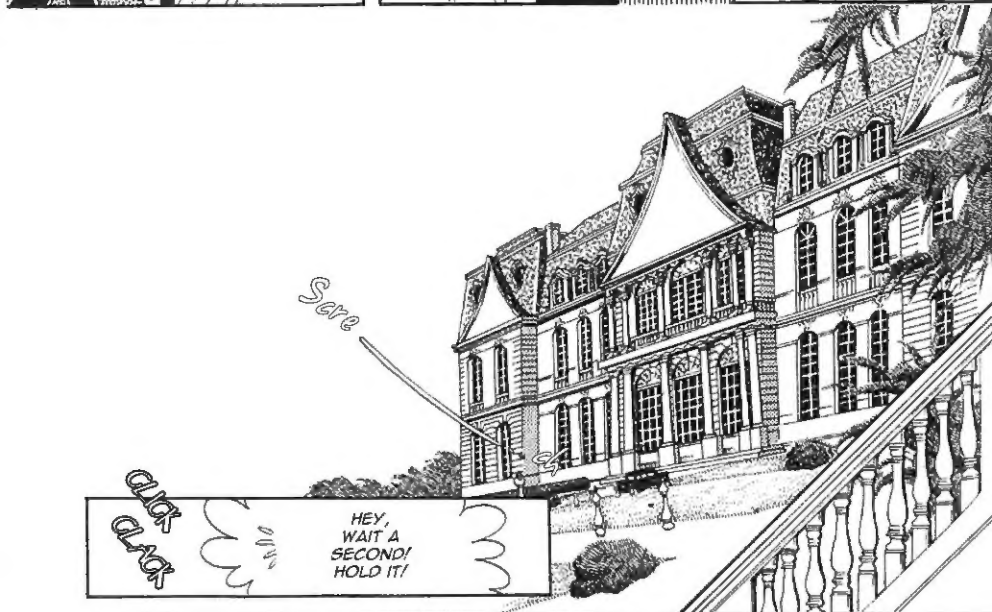
YOU DUMMY!  
I'M TELLING YOU,  
YOU'RE THE  
ONLY ONE I  
LOVE.

...Might've  
said  
that  
to  
Patty,  
too...

I  
CAN'T  
BELIEVE  
YOU!  
YOU  
PLAYBOY!



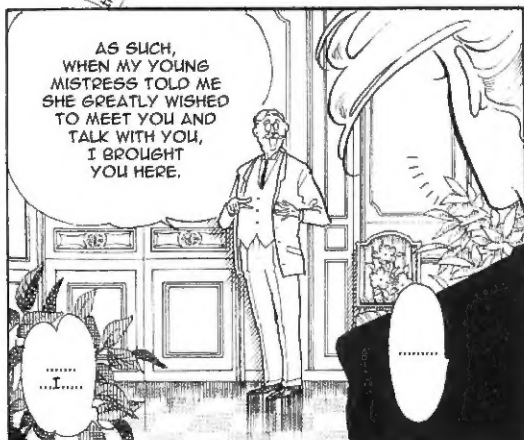
# 100万ポンドの愛





...KAI WALLACE: SHE IS IN LOVE WITH YOU.

Waaaaa...  
easy on  
poor on  
hearing  
that line.



AS SUCH,  
WHEN MY YOUNG  
MISTRESS TOLD ME  
SHE GREATLY WISHED  
TO MEET YOU AND  
TALK WITH YOU,  
I BROUGHT  
YOU HERE.



EHP?

THE  
DOCTOR  
SAYS  
SHE WILL  
NOT LIVE  
ANOTHER  
SIX MONTHS.



I tell  
ya,  
this  
pose  
makes  
girls  
cry...  
MY  
YOUNG  
MISTRESS'S  
HEALTH NOW  
IS SUCH  
THAT SHE IS  
NOT ALLOW-  
ED OUT.

AH...THAT  
AGAIN, HUH...  
HM.  
STILL, WHY  
DO I HAVE  
TO COME  
ALL THE WAY  
OUT HERE...



AH...  
YEAH, OF  
COURSE.

YOU  
WILL  
SEE HER,  
WON'T  
YOU?

IF  
THAT'S  
THE CASE,  
THEN...



NO,  
ERM...

GEE  
PAROON.  
THIS  
WAY,  
PLEASE.



PFET!

...SO,  
ULTI-  
MATELY,  
A  
TRAGIC...

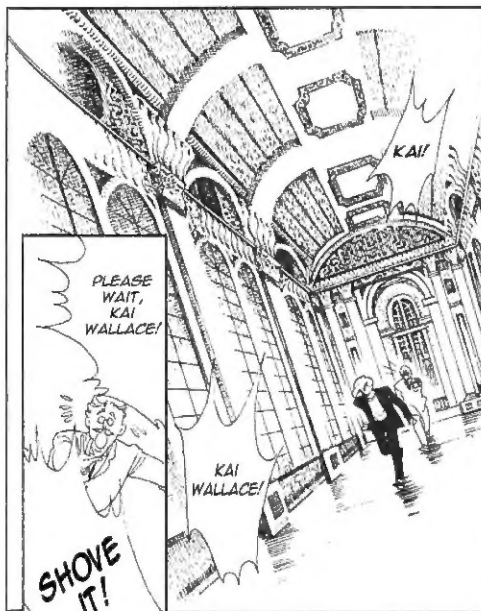
...YOUNG  
BEAUTY,  
HUHP

--A LITTLE  
GIRL LIVING  
IN THIS  
GREAT BIG  
MANSION,  
AND SHE'S  
ONLY GOT  
HALF A  
YEAR  
LEFT?  
POOR KID...

# 100万ポンドの愛



\*"Young Mistress" is what servants will call their unmarried female employer (especially if they've served her since she WAS young), no matter her age. ...)





LISTEN UP,  
AND LISTEN  
GOOD! YOU KNOW  
WHO I AM!?  
I'M THE BIGGEST  
PLAYBOY IN TOWN!  
I AM NOT HURTING  
FOR GIRLS.

FIRST OFF!!  
THAT OLD WOMAN--  
WHY WOULD I--?!  
...SURE THE HAG'S  
RIGHT IN THE  
HEAD!?

AT  
LEAST  
LISTEN  
TO--

QUIT  
GROPING  
ME!  
CREEPS  
ME OUT--  
WHAT IS  
THIS, AN  
OLD FOLKS'  
HOME!?

WHAT  
I  
MEAN  
TO  
SAY  
...

NONE  
OF  
YOUR  
BUSINESS!

Shut  
UP!

...YOU ARE,  
I TRUST,  
HURTING  
FOR  
MONEY.

OH, IS  
THAT RIGHT!  
JUST LET 'ER  
DIE!

MISS RIESENER  
HAS ONLY HALF  
A YEAR TO LIVE.

I'LL  
PRAY  
FOR HER  
SOUL!

IF YOU MARRY  
THE YOUNG MISTRESS,  
YOU'LL INHERIT A  
MILLION POUND  
LEGACY....

...IS  
THAT  
THE  
YOUNG  
MISTRESS  
HAS  
NO  
DELUSIONS  
ABOUT  
THIS  
SITUATION.

WHAT  
WAS  
THAT  
LAST  
BIT  
AGAIN?





THE  
YOUNG  
MISTRESS'S  
ONE  
DREAM  
WAS TO  
MARRY YOU,  
IT IS HER  
DREAM,  
AND HER  
LAST  
WISH.

...SHE INTENDS  
TO LEAVE  
ONE MILLION POUNDS,  
THIS MANSION,  
ITS LAND, AND  
ALL HER PROPERTY,  
TO YOU.

EVEN IF YOU'RE  
ONLY AFTER  
THE FORTUNE...

EVEN IF YOU  
NEVER LOVE  
HER...

IF ONLY  
YOU'LL  
MARRY HER...

Kac hing

PLEASE  
MAKE IT  
COME  
TRUE.

...AND IF I  
JUST HUMOR  
HER, PLAY  
HOUSE WITH  
HER FOR SIX  
MONTHS, THE  
OLD WOMAN  
WILL PASS  
ON  
PEACEFULLY...

...SO  
I  
WOULDN'T  
HAVE  
TO  
FEEL  
GUILTY...

THE  
OLD  
WOMAN  
ALREADY  
UNDER-  
STANDS  
HOW  
THINGS  
ARE...



...THIS  
COULD  
JUST  
BE  
THE  
SWEETEST  
DEAL  
EVER.

DEPENDING  
ON HOW  
YOU  
LOOK  
AT  
IT...

THE  
IDEA  
OF  
MARRYING  
SOME  
EIGHTY-  
YEAR-  
OLD HAS  
GIVES  
ME THE  
HEEBIE-  
JEEBIES,  
BUT...

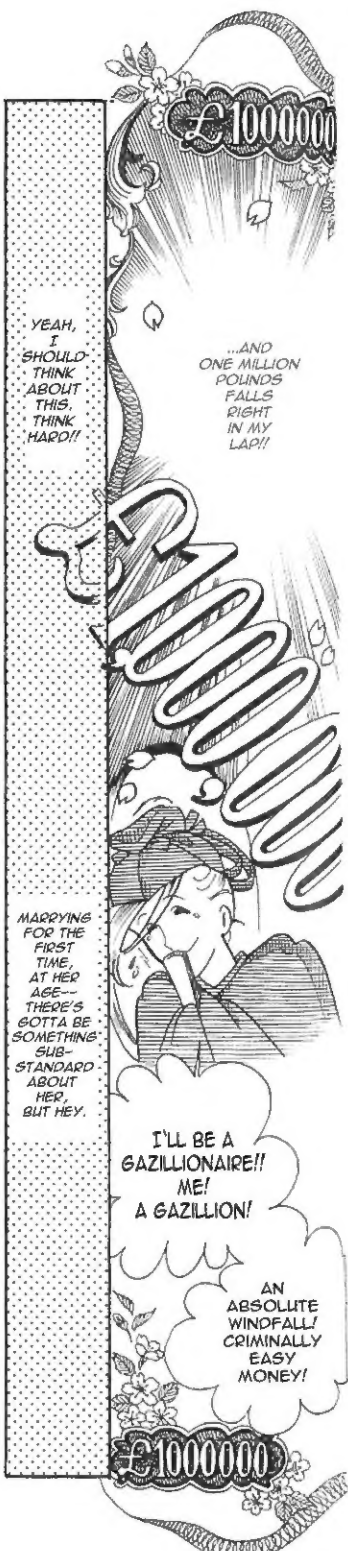
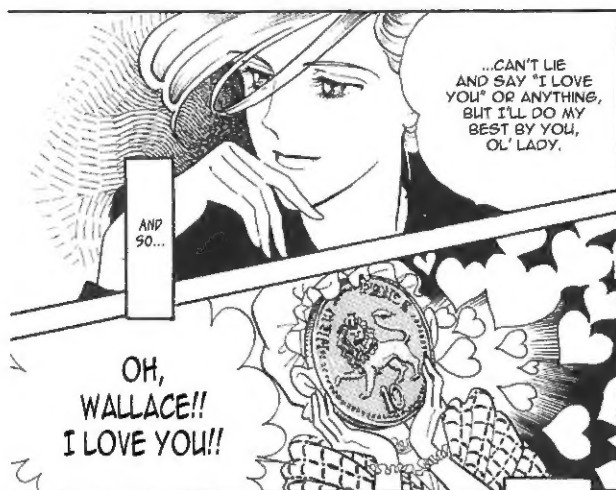
HUH.

PLEASE  
MAKE  
IT  
COME  
TRUE...





I...





Luckily, can't see her face for the veil

--AND SO...

Poor loser aren't ya son

Just do it

hey. Don't suppose you'd skip the kissing part?

...AND EVERYTHING ELSE SURROUNDING IT, A WEDDING WAS HELD FOR THE TWENTY-YEAR-OLD PLAYBOY AND THE EIGHTY-YEAR-OLD GIRL WITH ROMANTIC NOTIONS.

IGNORING THE SCORN...

What in heaven should not her age could be her grandson I'm so jealous

CONFUSION

To think he was the type to be swayed by money --Well, I knew he was but.

No. No. No. No.

SAY, KAI, IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR US TO SPEND THE NIGHT?

IT'S NOT A BAD TIME? You're sorta newly weds.

What a HOUSE

MORON! IT'S NOT A REAL MARRIAGE, JUST A FORMALITY.

WHAT DID YOU SAY!?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT

LUNACY

Yeah, so for it, go! NOW THAT'S entertainment!

# 100万ポンドの愛

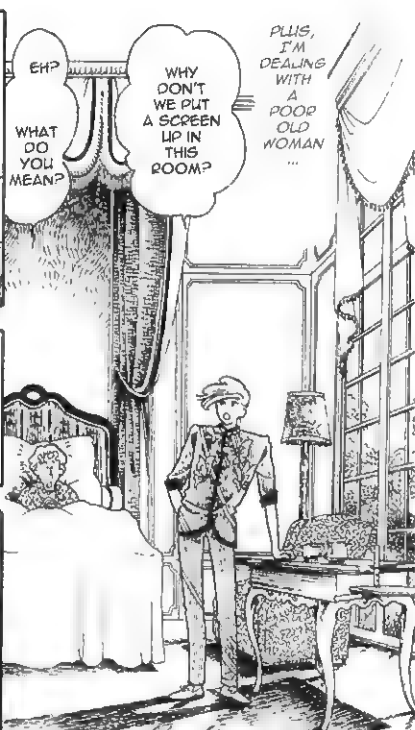






WALLACE

YOU KNOW, THERE'S GOOD FILMS OF JUST ABOUT EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD. MAYBE A HONEYMOON'S OUT, BUT EVEN IN HERE, WE COULD AT LEAST...



EH?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WHY DON'T WE PUT A SCREEN UP IN THIS ROOM?

PLUS, I'M DEALING WITH A POOR OLD WOMAN...



...YOU'RE SO NICE. YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD BOY, WALLACE.



SO, OKAY, I'LL ORDER SOME...

clatter★...



WE..WELL, WHATEVER; BAD PICTURE, THOUGH, HUH? I LOOK WAY BETTER THAN THIS. ANYWAY, WHAT, YOU DIDN'T HAVE COLOR FILM OR SOMETHING?

Luke Kodak... or Sakura.

A SNEAK-★

OH. THAT WAS A "SNEAK SHOT".



...HUH?

A PHOTO OF ME?

HUH? SORRY, DID I JUST BREAK SOMETH..

# 100万ポンドの愛





OH-  
HERE..



THERE'S  
LOTS OF  
SCANDINAVIAN  
GUYS  
AROUND  
THERE...  
SEE?

I WENT  
HERE LAST  
YEAR.  
WITH A GIRL--  
UM, NO, WITH  
A FRIEND.

EH?

WHICH  
ONE?

...HE'S  
VERY HAND-  
SOME.

MM-  
HM.

HUH?



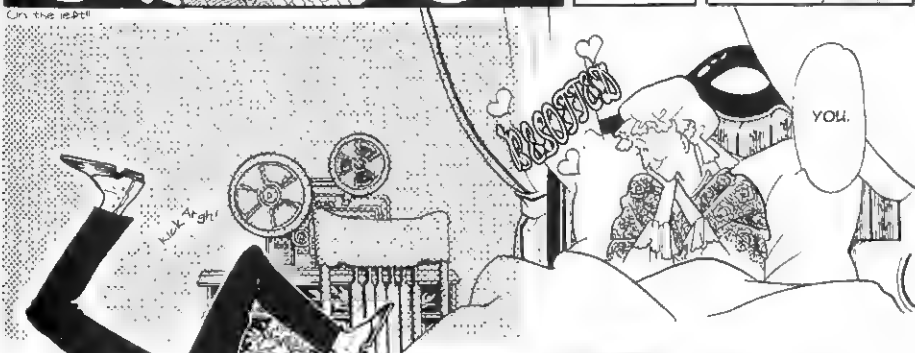
THANKS

THIS IS  
QUITE A LOT  
OF FILMS, SIR  
WHAT ARE  
YOU  
DOING?

Ooh, but he's  
handsome

GOIN'  
ON A  
HONEYMOON  
WITH MY  
OL' LADY.

YOU.



UM...

...  
WELL  
...

What's  
wrong  
with  
calling  
an old  
lady  
'old lady'?

WHAT  
DO  
YOU  
WANT  
ME TO  
CALL  
YOU?

STOP  
CALLING  
ME THAT,  
WOULD  
YOU? WE  
ARE  
MARRIED,  
YOU  
KNOW.

HUH?

OLD  
LADY--

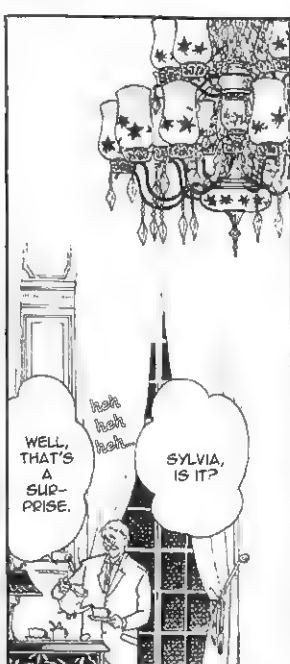
OH, YES,  
ABOUT  
THAT  
NAME.

Just water  
the film,  
wouldn't it?



I can't take it! Aaah Hot Hot

THIS OLD LADY CAN BE PRETTY CUTE





I  
DON'T  
UNDER-  
STAND...

SHE  
WAS  
SO  
...

...SER-  
IOUSLY?

A  
PORTRAIT  
OF MY  
YOUNG  
MISTRESS  
AS A  
GIRL.

No  
way...

...SO  
PRETTY  
...

THIS  
PRETTY,  
AND  
RICH  
BESIDES

WHY  
DIDN'T  
SHE  
EVER  
MARRY?

YES,  
BUT  
SHE  
WAS  
LOVELIER  
N  
PERSON.

MORE...

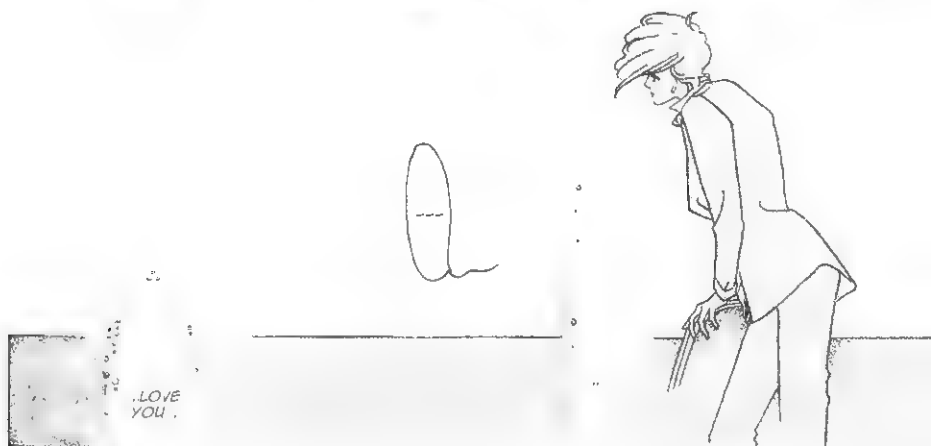
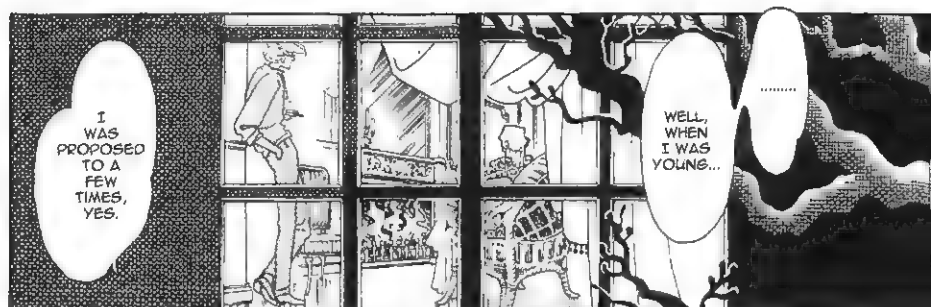
Age is a  
terrible  
thing.

WHY...

THIS  
IS  
SYLVIA  
RIESENER.



# 100万ポンドの愛



I  
LOVE  
YOU

.. BECAUSE  
I  
LOVE  
YOU,  
KAI  
WALLACE

BUT  
I...

I'M SO  
HAPPY  
YOU  
MARRIED  
ME...

MY  
ONE  
DREAM  
WAS  
TO  
HAPPY  
YOU .

IT'S  
FINE,  
DON'T  
WORRY  
I KNOW ALL  
ABOUT IT,  
BUT I  
LOVE YOU,  
SO IT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER.

I'M  
ONLY  
AFTER  
YOUR  
MONEY...

WHY?

I'M  
SO  
HAPPY  
YOU  
MARRIED  
ME ..

WHY  
WOULD  
YOU  
LOVE  
SOMEONE  
LIKE  
ME  
THAT  
MUCH?

BUT  
I  
DON'T  
KNOW  
A THING  
ABOUT  
YOU,  
AND  
YOU  
STILL...



THAT  
WAS  
A  
WEIRD  
DREAM..

Zoned

I  
DON'T  
GET  
IT,  
OL'  
LADY.

HOW  
CAN  
YOU  
SEEM  
SO  
HAPPY  
WHEN  
YOU  
LOOK  
AT  
ME?

OL'  
LADY  
...

GLAD IT  
WAS THE  
FACE FROM  
THE PORTRAIT,  
ANYWAY  
HER FACE NOW  
WOULD'VE  
MADE IT A  
NIGHTMARE

WAL-  
LACE

I'VE  
NEVER  
DREAMED  
ABOUT A  
GIRL BEFORE,  
EVER.

UM.  
OL' LADY,  
PEOPLE  
USUALLY  
CALL THIS  
"SALAD  
DRESSING".

AH...

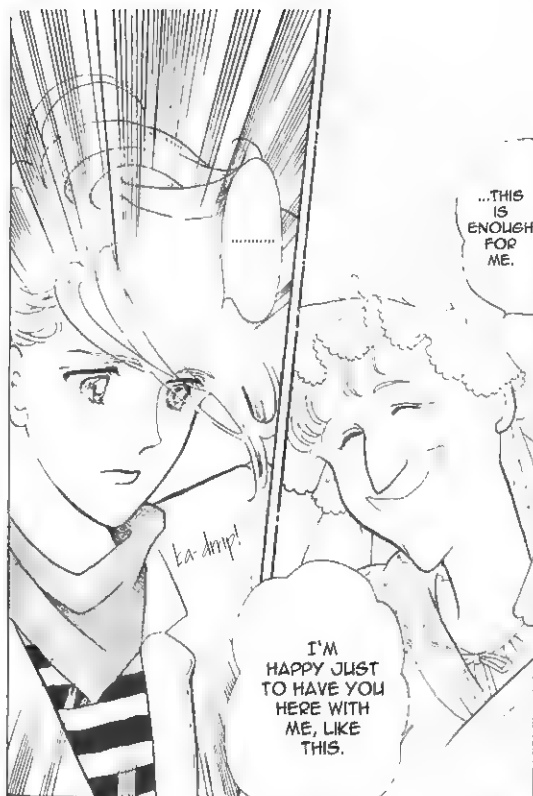
...HUHP?

WAL-  
LACE? SORRY,  
BUT  
COULD YOU  
FETCH ME  
THE  
SAUCE?

WELL...  
I  
GUESS,  
MAYBE  
...

I'LL  
BET  
YOU  
KNOW  
EVERY-  
THING...

YOU'RE  
SMART,  
TOO,  
APEN'T  
YOU!



...THIS IS ENOUGH FOR ME.

I'M HAPPY JUST TO HAVE YOU HERE WITH ME, LIKE THIS.



YOU REALLY ARE SO KIND.

THANK YOU, WALLACE.

FOR AN 80-YEAR-OLD GRANDMA, SHE'S GOT A PRETTY CUTE FACE.

WELL, WANT TO WATCH THE REST OF THE FILMS WHILE YOU'RE EATING?

JUST A SEC, I'LL--

WALLACE.

BUT...

CLATTER !!



I CAN'T DEAL WITH YOU PEOPLE ANY MORE!

IT'S-- EVEN I'LL GET WEIRD!

WALLACE KAIP

KAIP

HANDS OFF!

I'M--!!

WALLACE?

HUB

## 100万ポンドの愛



YES.  
BEFORE  
WALLACE  
COMES TO  
HATE ME...







KAI, YOU'LL HAVE THAT MILLION POUNDS REALLY SOON, WON'T YOU.

HUH? YEAH...?

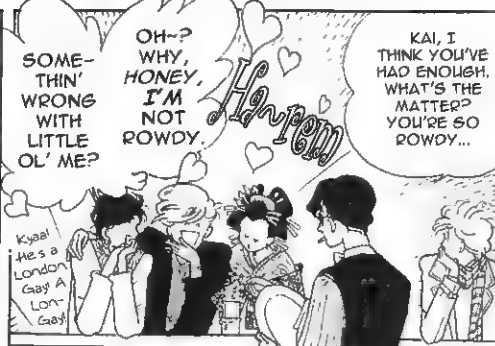
SO, LISTEN! WHEN YOU GET IT, COULD YOU MAKE ME YOUR NEXT WIFE!?



WHAT DID YOU SAY---? WHO THE HECK WOULD OVER THAT OLD LADY---

didn't say anything about my old ladies. Crazy drunk.

KAI, KAI! SAY, KAI!



SOME-THIN' WRONG WITH LITTLE OL' ME?

OH~? WHY, HONEY, I'M NOT ROWDY.

He-rem

KAI, I THINK YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH. WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU'RE SO ROWDY...



IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH...

NOTHING "WRONG" ... JUST...



Splu

...YOU'RE LOVESICK, OR SOMETHING.

IT!



K  
Y  
=

Well then, I'll look after all of you together. No worries.

Oh My-d

THAT'S RIGHT. WOMEN ARE ALL LIKE THIS. FICKLE AND SILLY

JUST GETTING MY HAND SQUEEZED BY A WOMAN -- AND AN 80-YEAR-OLD WOMAN, AT THAT-- MADE ME GO ALL RED?



R GHT

WHY NOT?

CHEATER! Jumping out like that-- ME! TAKE ME!



SERIOUSLY,  
I MUST  
HAVE  
BEEN  
NUTS.

THE  
YOUNG  
MISTRESS  
IS IN  
CRITICAL  
CONDITION!

SHADDUP,  
GRAMPS.  
ISN'T IT  
PAST  
YOUR  
BEDTIME?

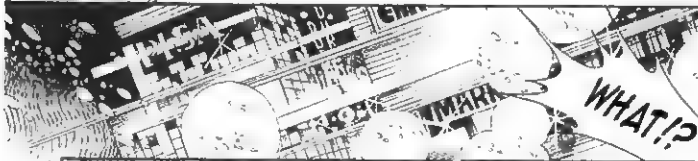
LISTEN,  
Y'KNOW WHAT?  
THIS PLACE IS  
**TOTALLY**  
OFF-LIMITS TO  
ANYONE OVER  
TWENTY-FIVE.  
YOU SHOULDN'T  
BE IN HERE,  
GRANDPA.

**HURRY!**  
PLEASE  
HURRY AND  
COME  
HOME,  
WALLACE.

MY,  
MY!  
THAT  
WRINKLY  
OL' FACE...

KA!  
WALLACE!!

IF IT  
ISN'T THE  
DEAD OL'  
GRAND-  
DADDY  
FROM MY HO:SE



THAT  
IS ALL THE  
YOUNG MISTRESS  
CAN DO FOR  
YOU.

--THAT'S  
CRAZY!!

SHE  
THINKS THAT  
HER DYING,  
AND SOON,  
WILL MAKE  
THINGS  
BETTER  
FOR YOU...

--THAT'S  
PRACTICALLY  
SUICIDAL!

IN  
THIS  
COLD?!

SHE  
WENT  
TO  
SLEEP  
WITH  
THE  
WINDOW  
OPEN--

SHE  
DID  
IT  
FOR  
YOU.





DRESSING  
IT UP WITH  
FANCY  
WORDS  
WON'T  
CHANGE  
THE  
SITUA-  
TION.

Don't just  
say stuff  
like that!  
At least  
try to--

NOT  
A  
CHANCE.

UM...  
CAN...  
CAN YOU  
SAVE  
HER...  
DO YOU  
THINK?

YOU'RE  
BEING  
PAGED.

WAL-  
LACE

SHUT UP!  
JUST GOTTA  
EXPLAIN EVERYTHING,  
DON'T YA, DOC!  
WHY DON'T  
YOU QUIT STANDING  
AROUND AND TRY  
DOING SOMETHING  
FOR--

SHE'LL  
BE  
DEAD  
SOON.

WAL-  
LACE.

WAL-  
LACE.

SHE  
NEEDS  
YOU.

WHAT  
THAT  
OLD  
LADY  
NEEDS  
...  
...ISN'T  
DOCTORS,  
OR  
MEDI-  
CINE.

TAKE  
THE  
MONEY,  
FIND  
YOURSELF  
A CUTE  
YOUNG  
GIRL,  
AND--

STOP IT!  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT,  
OL'  
LADY?

BUT  
DON'T  
WORRY.

OL'  
LADY  
...

...I'VE  
BEEN  
TERRIBLE  
TO YOU,  
HAVEN'T  
I.

MAKING  
YOU  
MARRY  
AN OLD  
WOMAN  
LIKE  
ME...

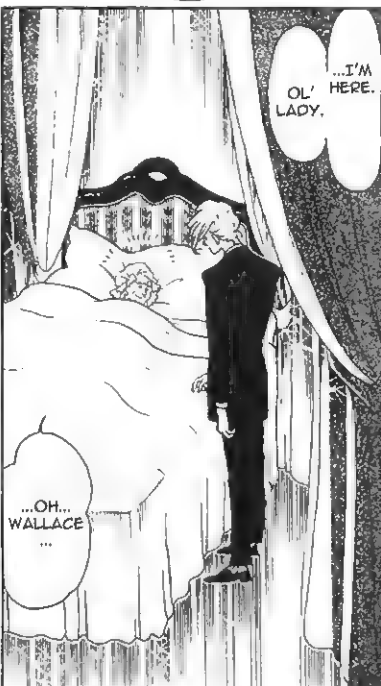
AS  
PROMI-  
SED,  
ONCE  
I'M DEAD,  
THE  
ENTIRE  
FORTUNE  
WILL GO  
TO YOU.

OL'  
LADY  
!!



...OH...  
WALLACE  
...

...I'M  
HERE.  
OL'  
LADY.





JUST  
LIVE.  
PLEASE.

IF YOU  
LIKE ME, THEN LIVE  
A LONG TIME, LOADS  
LONGER THAN THIS.

IF YOU  
CAN'T TRAVEL,  
THEN WE'LL  
BUILD A STAGE  
OR SOMETHING  
IN HERE...

THEN  
LET'S GO  
ON A  
REAL  
HONEYMOON  
TRIP.

WALLACE,  
I'VE  
SEEN  
THINK-  
ING...

WAL-  
LACE.


WAL-  
LACE.



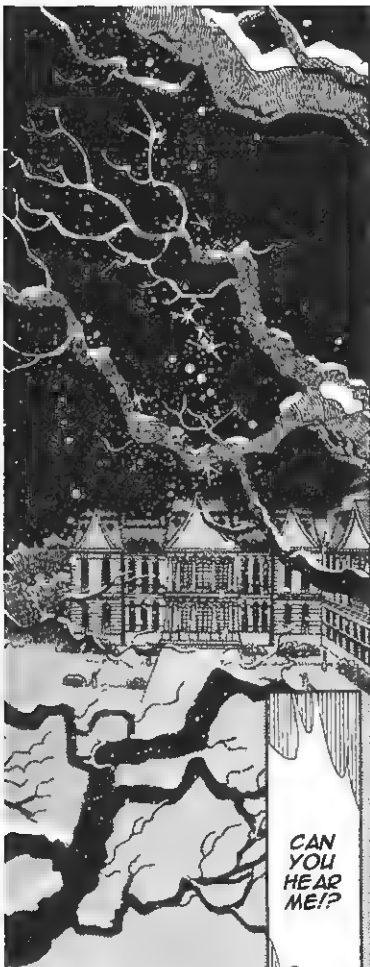
I  
LOVE  
YOU,  
WALLACE.



FINE--  
SYLVIA.



IF YOU DON'T  
LIKE "SYLVIA",  
I WOULDN'T  
MIND BEING  
"MRS.  
WALLACE"...



CAN  
YOU  
HEAR  
ME!?



I  
love  
you,  
ol'  
Lady!



I  
LOVE...  
...YOU,  
TOO.



I...



CALL  
FOR  
THE  
PRIEST.





OH! NO,  
I'M  
LOOKING  
FOR HIM,  
TOO.  
WHERE  
COULD HE  
HAVE  
GOTTEN  
TOP?

AH,  
EXCLUSE ME.  
YOU  
WOULDN'T  
HAPPEN TO  
HAVE  
SEEN KAI,  
WOULD YOU?

KAIP



THIS BITES,  
I WANTED  
TO GO PLAY  
WITH HIS  
MONEY  
RIGHT  
AWAY..

HEAVENS,  
AND RIGHT  
IN THE  
MIDDLE OF  
THE FUNERAL  
WHERE ON  
EARTH IS  
HE...?

KAI  
WAL-  
LACE?

WHERE  
ARE  
YOU?



...NO.



MAN  
I WON-  
DER  
WHEN  
SHE  
TOOK  
THIS,  
ANY-  
WAY

I  
KISS  
IT  
EVERY  
MORN-  
ING,  
YOU  
KNOW

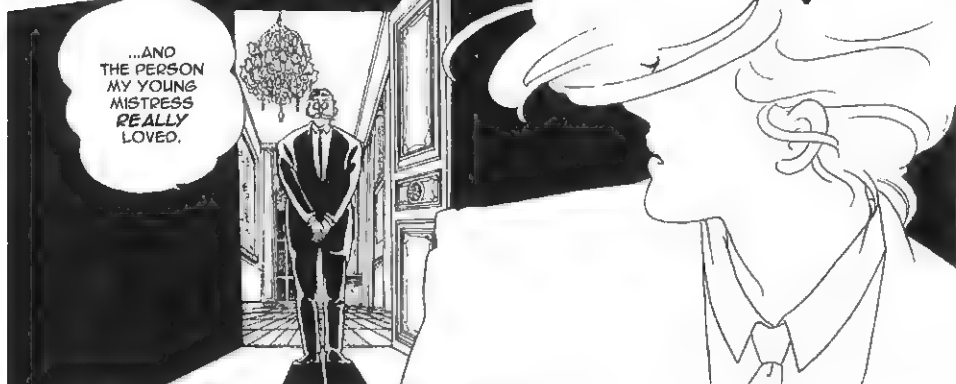
SHE  
SAID  
IT WAS  
A SNEAK  
SHOT..



OH,  
IT'S  
THAT  
PHOTO



# 100万ポンドの愛



I  
LOVE  
YOU, WALLACE

I  
LOVE  
YOU

I  
LOVE  
YOU

IT WAS  
ALWAYS ABOUT  
MY GRANDFATHER?  
THE WHOLE TIME?

A  
FLEETING  
DREAM?

A  
SUBSTI-  
TUTE?  
...WHAT...?

IT'S  
LIKE  
A DREAM

I'M  
SO  
HAPPY ..

NOT  
ME...  
BUT MY  
GRAND-  
FATHER?

DID YOU  
MARRY ME  
BECAUSE  
I LOOKED  
JUST LIKE  
HIM?

OL' LADY...  
WERE YOU  
ALWAYS  
LOOKING  
THROUGH  
ME, AT MY  
GRAND-  
FATHER?

THAT  
PICTURE  
WAS  
MY TREA-  
SURE

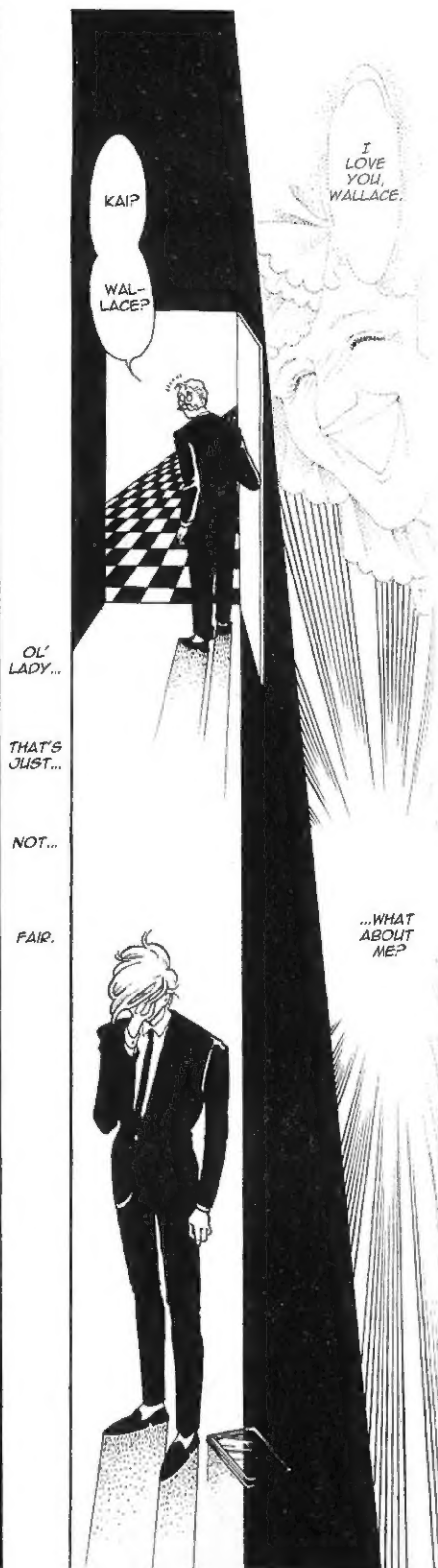
I  
CONSIDERED  
KEEPING  
SILENT, BUT  
YOU WERE  
KIND  
ENOUGH TO  
COOPERATE,  
IN MANY  
WAYS...

AND  
YOU'LL  
NO DOUBT  
FIND IT  
EASIER  
THIS  
WAY...

I  
LOVE  
YOU

WERE  
YOU SAYING  
ALL THAT  
TO  
JOHN WALLACE,  
MY  
GRANDFATHER?

THEN...





# Afterword

In 2006, Hakusensha's bunko (reprint) division released a collection of Reiko Shimizu's short stories. Also titled "A Million-Pound Love", the collection featured this story, six earlier ones, and an afterword by a Ms. Yukari Fujimoto. The parts of the afterword relating to this particular story were interesting, and I've translated them here.



## Excerpt from "Reiko Shimizu's Kaleidoscope ~ Changing Things, and Things Unchanging"

Yukari Fujimoto (critic)

...However, the story most worth reading in this collection is, as one might expect, the title work: "A Million-Pound Love". In (the aforementioned) interview, when asked "Which of your works first made you think you'd finally gotten the effect you wanted?", Shimizu-san answered:

The very first story which made me think, "Yeah, I've drawn a good one here", and which brought back the reaction I'd hoped for, was "A Million-Pound Love". Up until that one, I'd drawn stories because I wanted to draw the pictures. I'd think, "I want to draw a story like this," then draw it up, and the first story to bring back a different reaction was this one. ...Around the time of "Metal and the Bride" and "Noah's Spaceship", my mindset shifted to one of wanting to make readers feel the story's inherent interestingness through "big" pages. My attitude of "Well, whatever, I've just got to fill up the pages" began to change about then, too. I'd send in the rough script, and then wait impatiently for the reaction to it.

As she says, "A Million-Pound Love" became Reiko Shimizu's turning point as a creator of stories. Indeed, readers are swayed this way and that by the plot developments: from the entrance of the incredibly superficial playboy (and main character) Kai, to the memorable scene of his meeting with "the young mistress" (smirk!), to his gradual opening of his heart to her, and - when she's grown more and more dear to both Kai and to the readers - the appearance of her young portrait... In the process, the readers are drawn deeper and deeper into the story. Around this point, I was reminded of Ray Bradbury's story "Dandelion Wine", a love story about an eighty-year-old woman and a young man in his twenties who falls in love with a photograph of her as a girl... But Reiko Shimizu would never let things end there. In the complete reversal she's held back for the very end, Kai and the readers think "She got me!", and everyone is handily saved from excessive poignance. I think I can safely say that the story around that part is perfectly balanced.

Also in this work, we can see the theme of "unchanging love" which appears over and over in Reiko Shimizu's works, with numerous variations. Shimizu-san's answer when I pointed this out to her was also memorable:

You know, I probably thought that people like this, "dog-like" people, are sweet. Once they're told, "Here, this is him, this is your master", no matter what happens later - even if they're betrayed - they'll stick with him (Laughs). I tend to tire of things pretty quickly myself; I'd rather have things changing all the time, so I think, in a backwards sort of way, I must find it moving that unchanging things exist. I find it incredibly touching that a dog could be told "Wait for me here" once, ten years ago, and it would still be waiting there, just the way you'd said, when you came home.

I get the feeling it's just like Shimizu-san to bring up dogs here. When I heard this, though, it really brought the whole thing home to me.







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